

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 SS-20 PRS-01 OPR-02 SY-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 A-01 L-03 IO-14 EB-11

SCA-01 OC-06 CCO-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 AID-20 JUSE-00

OMB-01 FBIE-00 TRSE-00 NSC-10 DRC-01 /167 W

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P R 310936Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1580

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

SQESBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 594

AMEMBASSYPARIS 804

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 0140

ADDIS ABABA FOR RSO

BEIRUT FOR RSS AND RMO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS

SUBJ: GSDR REPORT OF TERRORIST THREAT AGAINST US PERSONNEL

REF: MOGADISCIO 0134

1. I TOOK LINE PARA. 6 REFTEL WITH ACTING FONMIN THIS MORNING AND NOTED THAT FABRICATED REPORTS SIMILAR IN CONTENT TO THAT COMING TO SOMALIS HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY SEVERAL OTHER EMBASSIES DURING PAST FEW MONTHS. I EMPHASIZED THAT SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY WAS GSDR'S AND THAT WE PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH THEM.

2. ABDURAHMAN EMPHASIZED THAT SOMALI SECURITY CERTAIN TERRORISTS NOT YET IN MOGADISCIO, THAT THEY FELT REPORT PROBABLY FALSE BUT THAT THEY WANTED BE SURE NOTHING HAPPENED IN SOMALIA. GSDR HAD ALREADY TAKEN SECURITY PRECAUTIONS BUT PERHAPS THEY

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SHOULD INSTITUTE MEASURES SIMILAR TO THOSE TAKEN AT TIME OF

THREAT AGAINST AMB. LOORAM. HE DID NOT RPT NOT PRESS QUESTION OF ESCORT FOR ALL EMBASSY PERSONNEL. HE AGREED THAT POLICE AND EMBASSY SHOULD BE IN TOUCH ON THE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BUT SAID HE WOULD BE BACK IN CONTACT WITH ME IF SOMALIS DECIDED STEP SUCH AS ESCORT WAS REQUIRED. ABDURAHMAN URGED THAT WE MEANWHILE CONTINUE BUSINESS AS USUAL.

3. ABDURAHMAN GAVE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON REPORT THEY HAD RECEIVED: INDIVIDUAL WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS PLO INFORMANT PASSED INFORMATION BASED ON "ANONYMOUS SOURCE" TO SOMALI EMBASSY PARIS "TWO DAYS AGO". SOMALI EMBASSY DID NOT GIVE PLO SOURCE'S NAME AND INDEED ABDURAHMAN DID NOT KNOW IF INDIVIDUAL HAD VISITED EMBASSY OR SIMPLY TELEPHONED. ABDURAHMAN SAID THEY HAD INSTRUCTED THEIR EMBASSIES IN EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST TO BE ALERT FOR ANY FURTHER WORD ON THIS MATTER AND TO GET NAME AND IDENTIFICATION OF ANY FUTURE TIPSTER.

4. WHILE I WAS MEETING WITH ABDURAHMAN, DCM MET SEPARATELY WITH POLICE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS COL. JAMA. JAMA, WHO CLEARLY HAD NOT BEEN BRIEFED ON REPORT, DENIED IT HAD ORIGINATED IN MOGADISCIO, CONFIRMED THAT AL FATAH LOCAL REPO IBRAHIM IS OUT OF COUNTRY AND STATED THAT POLICE AND NSS WERE FULLY PRIVY TO AL FATAH PLANS AND OPERATIONS. HE WAS SURE AL FATAH HAD NO PLANS FOR MOGADISCIO TERRORIST ATTEMPT. RESPONSE DCM'S QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBILITY ARAB TERRORISTS ENTERING SOMALIA UNDER COVER OF VISITING ARAB DELEGATION, JAMA SAID THIS WAS A DANGER BUT THAT POLICE AND NSS WERE CAREFULLY SCREENING ALL ARABS ENTERING SOMALIA AND HAD THEM UNDER INDIVIDUAL SURVEILLANCE. JAMA SAID HE WOULD COORDINATE WITH NSS AND MOFA REGARDING PROTECTION OF MISSION PERSONNEL. HE PERSONALLY FELT THERE NO NEED AT THIS STAGE TO PROVIDE CONTINUOUS ESCORT FOR AMBASSADOR OR OTHER EMBASSY PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, HE WOULD SEE THAT POLICE PROTECTION OF EMBASSY AND RESIDENCE WAS VISIBLY INCREASED AND WOULD COORDINATE THIS INCREASED POLICE PROTECTION WITH NSS.

5. COMMENT: THESE TWO CONVERSATIONS SUGGEST TO US THAT FONOFF WAS OVERREACTING TO HIGHLY DUBIOUS REPORT. WE BELIEVE MEASURES PROMISED BY JAMA ARE SENSIBLE AND SUFFICIENT TO COPE WITH SITUATION AT THIS TIME.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 JAN 1974
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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